

EP 682026 B1 G C07D-475/04

Designated States (Regional): AT BE CH DE DK ES FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC
NL PT SE

DE 59507591 G C07D-475/04 Based on patent EP 682026

ES 2144066 T3 C07D-475/04 Based on patent EP 682026

CA 2148671 C E C07D-475/04

Abstract (Basic): EP 682026 A

Crystalline (6S)-tetrahydrofolic acid (Ia) and crystalline
(6R)-tetrahydrofolic acid (Ib) are new.

USE - Tetrahydrofolic acid (esp. as the calcium salt) is used,
e.g., to treat folic acid anaemia, as an antidote to increase the
tolerability of folic acid antagonist (esp. aminopterin and
methotrexate in cancer therapy ('antifolate rescue')), to increase the
therapeutic effect of fluorinated pyrimidines in treatment of
autoimmune disorders such as psoriasis or rheumatoid arthritis, for
increasing the tolerability of certain antiparasitic agents, and for
reducing the toxicity of dideazatetrahydrofolates in chemotherapy. It
may also be used in prodn. of various tetrahydrofolic acid derivs.

ADVANTAGE - The prods. may be obtained in a purity which allows
direct use (i.e. not as a salt) for pharmaceutical purposes. The prods.
are stable.

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Title Terms: CRYSTAL; TETRA; HYDRO; FOLIC; ACID; HIGH; STABILISED; SALT;
FORMATION; PHARMACEUTICAL; PROCESS